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Panelists to discuss higher education goals at HECB meeting Sept. 29 in Olympia

OLYMPIA – Two panels composed of business, community and higher education representatives will offer thoughts on how to focus scarce state resources to increase educational attainment in Washington when the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) meets in Olympia on Thursday Sept. 29.

The two panel discussions will be part of a broader presentation by HECB staff on recent efforts to update the state's Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education. The plan was developed in 2008, and is required to be updated every four years.

The 2008 plan was visionary and covered a 10-year period, setting ambitious degree production goals. However, the state's ability to achieve these broad educational attainment goals has been hampered by the continuing economic downturn, which has forced the state to cut higher education funding. The current update process is focusing on parts of the plan that can realistically be accomplished, given the current economic environment.

One purpose of the panel presentations at the Sept. 29 meeting is to begin garnering additional ideas from key people who have not been involved in the process to date. One panel will be comprised of opinion leaders from business and the community, and the other will include faculty, student and institutional representatives. Additional meetings and online opportunities to provide input to the Board on the Master Plan Update also are being planned.

The names of the individuals participating on the two panels are provided below. An advisory committee comprised of leaders from higher education institutions, state agencies, the Legislature, business and non-profit groups also has been meeting to prepare a list of strategic plan-update recommendations for the HECB to consider.

At the Sept. 29 meeting, the HECB will receive a preliminary set of committee recommendations related to three strategic plan goals: increasing educational attainment, promoting economic growth and innovation, and monitoring and funding higher education for results. The advisory committee has a third meeting scheduled Oct. 24 to review the update recommendations one more time. The Board is scheduled to review the update for approval at its Nov. 17 meeting, with the report to be delivered to the Legislature in December.

Also at the Sept. 29 meeting, the Board will hear from Arun Raha, Executive Director of the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council. Raha will review the latest state revenue forecast, and college representatives will discuss the likely impacts of additional reductions in state funding.

Briefing materials for the meeting are available at:
www.hecb.wa.gov/AboutTheHECB/MeetingMaterials.

Who: Higher Education Coordinating Board

What: Regular Meeting – September 29, 2011

**Where: Cherberg Building
Senate Hearing Room 4,
State Capitol Campus, Olympia, WA**

8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

- *Earl Hale, Vice Chair, Higher Education Coordinating Board*

Consent Agenda

Approval of June Meeting Minutes

New Degree Programs for Approval

- **UW Seattle, Educational Specialist School of Psychology**
Resolution 11-20
- **UW Tacoma, Master of Accounting**
Resolution 11-21

8:40 a.m. State Economic and Revenue Forecast: Impact on Higher Education

- *Arun Raha, Executive Director, Economic and Revenue Forecast Council*

9:50 a.m. Strategic Master Plan Update

Introduction

10 a.m. Panel of Business and Community Leaders

- *David Fisher, former chair, WA roundtable Education Committee, The Partnership for Learning, and the Academic Achievement and Accountability Commission*
- *George Scarola, Senior Advisor, League of Education Voters*
- *David Zeeck, Publisher and President, The News Tribune*

11 a.m. Panel of Institutional Representatives

- *Lloyd Butler, Interim President, Pacific Northwest University*
- *Mike Bogatay, Executive Director, Washington Student Association*
- *Jim Fridley, UW Professor of Forest Resources*
- *Ahmadou Seck, former student body president, St. Martin's University*

- *Melonie Rasmussen, faculty member, Pierce College*
- *Paul Herrick, faculty member, Shoreline Community College*

Noon

Public Comment

Adjournment

Public Comment: *A sign-in sheet is provided for public comment on any of the Board items.*

Meeting Accommodation: *Persons who require special accommodation for attendance must call the HECB at 360-753-7800 as soon as possible before the meeting.*

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